



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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District of Arizona*

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CONVICTED VIOLENT FELON SENTENCED TO 44 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF THREE FIREARMS

TUCSON – Junhama Daniel Martinez, 28, of Sells, Ariz. was sentenced on June 5 to 44 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge David C. Bury. Martinez had pleaded guilty on March 22, admitting illegal possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and also illegal possession of an unregistered firearm.

On August 25, 2006, Tohono O'Odham Police Department responded to a shots fired call in the Crowhang Village on the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation. During their investigation, they obtained consent to search the residence that Martinez lived in with his girlfriend and their children. During the search, police discovered three firearms (a Smith and Wesson .38 caliber revolver, a Winchester 270 caliber rifle with a scope, and a Mossberg Model 70 Plinkster .22 caliber rifle with an altered barrel and stock.) The search of Martinez's home also revealed brass knuckles, a stun gun, a set of fighting sticks (nunchaku), and suspected illegal drugs. Martinez admitted possessing all three of the firearms, admitted having modified the barrel of the .22 rifle by shortening it with a hacksaw, and admitted that he was prohibited from possessing firearms because he was a convicted felon. A records check confirmed that Martinez has a prior felony conviction for Assault with Intent to Commit Murder and Assault of a Person Under Age 16 Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury from 1999 for which he served 51 months in prison. A records check also confirmed that the modified .22 rifle was not registered to Martinez in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, as required by federal law.

Martinez's prosecution is part of the District of Arizona's Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), an illegal firearms enforcement program. The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by the U.S. Attorney. Through ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, the U.S. Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Tohono O'Odham Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

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